

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant:	Gene DIPOTO et al.	Confirmation No.:	9623
Serial No.:	10/693,663	Examiner:	James L. Swiger, III
Filed:	October 24, 2003	Group Art Unit:	3733
Docket No.:	1291.1142101	Customer No.:	28075
Title:	METHODS AND APPARATUSES FOR FIXATION OF THE SPINE THROUGH AN ACCESS DEVICE		

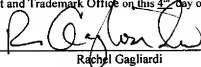
**AMENDMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH 37 CFR §1.111 RESPONSE**

MAIL STOP: AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**CERTIFICATE FOR ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION:**

The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described herein, are being electronically transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on this 4<sup>th</sup> day of November 2008.

By



Rachel Gagliardi

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action of the Examiner mailed August 4, 2008, with a shortened statutory period set to expire on November 4, 2008. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0413.

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 8 of this paper.